(c) Suitable action has been initiated against the officers responsible.

(d) Assistant Manager, Delhi region has been shifted, Catering Supervisor, Delhi has been suspended and charge sheeted for Major penalty under Disciplinary and Appeal Rules, Chief Inspector Catering, Base Kitchen and Chief Inspector Catering, Delhi have also been taken up.

Daitari-Banspani rail project

1293. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed the target for completion of Daitari-Banspani rail project in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to ensure expeditious completion of other on-going rail projects in the State, to improve the economy of this backward region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The project is targeted for completion in 2006-07.

(c) A number of initiatives have been taken for expediting the progress of the projects. Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) has been entrusted with 3 New Line, 4 Doubling and 2 Railway Electrification projects for fast track execution. Other works are also being expedited by the railways through the provision of higher allocation in the year 2006-07.

Terrorist activities on railways

1294. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways are frequently targeted by terrorists for subversive activities;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents during the last three years;

(c) whether there was a series of bomb blasts in the local trains in Mumbai in July, 2006, which resulted in heavy loss of life and property;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) what measures are contemplated to prevent recurrence of such terrorists acts in the futrure and to ensure passenger safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the last three years in all 63 incidents of attack by terrorists/naxal groups and militants (year 2003: 37, year 2004: 11, year 2005: 05 and year 2006 upto 25.07.06: 10) were reported.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. On 11.07.2006, between 18.20 hours to 18.28 hours, 7 powerful bomb blasts took place in 1st Class Compartments of various EMU Local Trains in Mumbai sub-urban services as per following details:-

S.No.	Station	Train No.	Coach No.
1.	Bandra	Borivali 637	8003 A
2.	Khar-Santacruz	Borivali 635	649 A
3.	Jogeswari	Borivali 619	634 A
4.	Mahim	Borivali 641	528 A
5.	Mira Road	Virar 607	846 A
6.	Matunga	Virar 645	865 A
7.	Borivali	Virar 621	935 A

185 persons lost their lives and 883 got injured in these incidents as per latest information available on 27.07.2006. Among the injured, 372 persons were discharged after rendering first-aid, 206 persons sustained simple injuries and 256 persons were grievously injured. Injured persons were admitted in Cooper, Bhagwati, Bandra Bhabha, Sion, KEM, Temba and other hospitals for treatment. Relief and rescue work was started on war footing with the help of Railway Administration, State Administration and local persons. Senior Railway Officers, disaster management teams and security agencies reached the site of incident. As per preliminary report of the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Western Circle there has been an estimated loss of Railway property worth Rs. 88,66,239.

(e) Law and order and 'Policing' being the state subject, it is primary responsibility of State governments to ensure passenger security against such terrorist attacks. To achieve this objective, close liaison with State police and Government Railway Police authorities is being maintained to provide effective security to passengers and passenger areas. However, to supplement their efforts, after the incidents of serial bomb blasts in Mumbai (Western Railway) on 11.07.2006, two additional Companies of Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF) have been deployed in Mumbai. Moreover, additional Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel have been mobilized to Mumbai from adjoining Divisions in Western and Central Railway. Close Circuit Televisions (CCTV) at 14 important and sensitive Railway stations of Mumbai (Central and Western Railways) have been installed to keep surveillance in Railway premises. 17 Sniffer dogs have been provided in Mumbai (Western and Central Railway) to conduct anti-sabotage checking at Railway stations. 97 numbers of Hand Held Metal Detectors have also been provided to RPF and RPSF staff for conducting intensive checking at Railway stations in Mumbai. Similar preventive measures have also been adopted at various other important and sensitive Railway Stations over the country including Railway stations located at National Capital Delhi. The following preventive measures are being taken to strengthen the security arrangements in trains and Railway premises over Zonal Railways:—

(i) Intensive publicity and public awareness campaigns alerting and educating all passenger/public to remain vigilant against any identified/unclaimed suspicious objects lying on platforms, other premises or coaches and to report to RPF/GRP/Railway officials available nearby.

(ii) Frequent announcements at all stations alerting passengers to be vigilant about suspicious movement of co-passengers and not to touch and suspicious luggage/bag especially in general compartments.

(iii) Utilization of Dog Squads at sensitive and important Railway stations and in trains.

(iv) Surprise checks in co-ordination with GRP, State Police and Intelligence agencies.

(v) Surprise checks of luggage and parcels by Railway officials in trains and stations in co-ordination with GRP.

(vi) Steps to prevent entry of unauthorized persons in trains and in empty coaching rakes at originating/destination stations, before and after placement in maintenance sidings.

(vii) Close co-ordination with GRP/State Police/Central Intelligence agencies to prevent any untoward incident.

(viii) Contingency plans are being drawn at Divisional (Railway) level to respond effectively to the contingencies arising out of sudden bomb blasts on the Railway system in conjunction with the Government Railway Police and the State Police.

(ix) Coordination mechanism at the Divisional and Zonal levels is being institutionalized.

Doubling and electrification of Meerut-Saharanpur rail line

†1295. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to stop the work pertaining to doubling and electrification of Meerut-Saharanpur Railway Line;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this project; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to lay Railway Line from Devband to Roorkee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The work of doubling and electrification of Meerut-Saharanpur section is not a sanctioned work. As such, stopping of this work does not arise.

(d) An updating survey for new rail line between Muzaffarnagar-Roorkee-Haridwar with take off point at Deoband has been taken up.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.